

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF UP2US

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Up2Us—a leader in sports based youth development—on the occasion of its annual awards ceremony for its Coach of the Year contest to be held here in Washington, D.C.

Up2Us is leading a national movement to advance sports as a tool for addressing the critical issues facing youth in this nation, including childhood obesity, academic failure and anti-social behavior.

Up2Us accomplishes this by supporting a national network of nearly 500 member organizations operating in all fifty states. Together, these organizations serve 25 million youth through both traditional and non-traditional sports. As one way of serving this network, Up2Us launched an initiative called Coach Across America.

The Up2Us Coach Across America (CAA) program is an AmeriCorps program that represents the first nationwide effort to mobilize a workforce to promote positive youth development through sports. In partnership with the Corporation for National and Community Service and Nike, CAA coaches use sports as a means to promote health and nutrition, education success, civic engagement and personal and social development among youth in some of the nation's poorest neighborhoods.

Last year, CAA placed 250 AmeriCorps members to serve as coaches in 105 youth programs across 20 states to work with more than 35,000 kids. In exchange for college tuition awards and a living stipend, coaches completed a total of 170,000 service hours (equivalent to \$3.5 million in national service), recruited over 1000 program volunteers, connected roughly 500 new parents to their respective programs and conducted more than 250 service-learning projects totaling 35,000 hours of youth volunteer service effort.

The 35,000 kids served by CAA coaches have access to the programs they need for their full development; are provided a safe place to acquire new knowledge and skills; gain a heightened sense of competency and self-respect through working to make a difference in their communities; build relationships with caring adult role models; develop leadership skills on and off the field; and have a better understanding of healthy eating and the importance of physical activity and exercise.

In recognition of the powerful role that coaches have on the lives of youth, Up2Us runs an annual contest—Coach of the Year—to honor the unsung heroes who devote their lives to the positive development of youth through sports.

Mr. Speaker, as Up2Us and its participating members honor the winners of this year's

Coach of the Year contest, I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating this year's finalists. They are among a distinguished group of individuals dedicated to improving the lives of our youth through sport.

Renato is the Executive Director of Access Youth Academy. He came to San Diego to join Access Youth Academy (formerly Surf City Squash) in May of 2007 from Harvard University where he was the Assistant Coach of the squash team. Originally from Brazil, Renato was a Brazilian Junior Champion and a top junior in South America. He represented his home country on the national team as its captain. Now, he is a role model, teacher and coach to hundreds of urban youth in San Diego.

Lisa Hawk is the Exercise & Health Science Department Chair, Athletic Director and lacrosse coach at the Preuss School at UCSD. The Preuss School is a nationally recognized school that serves a low income diverse population. Lisa is an advocate for sports as a tool for positive youth development and is changing lives through her work. Her athletes recognize how special Lisa is: "She sees the potential in each of her players and does not quit until that spark she sees within us is released for the public eye to see. She has helped me through the turbulence of a teenage life to the hectic lifestyle at home and has given me a comfortable place to go as well as someone to turn to."

Ktrice McNeill is the 2011 Coach Across America Coach of the Year recipient. Ktrice recently completed his year of service coaching basketball at Edenwald Community Center in New York. Ktrice is a NY native influenced by his parents who reminded him daily that "without education you have nothing." Growing up in an inner city where gang violence and drugs were prevalent, Ktrice understands first-hand that "sports give me and other young people in my community a safe haven to feel secure and feel like there's not a care in the world." As a coach, Ktrice aims to use his voice to teach young people that "failure is not an option."

Faye Stevens-Jett is a Physical Education Teacher and Athletic Director at Morton School of Excellence in Chicago, Illinois. For the past eleven years, she has coached double dutch, cheerleading, and pom-pom. In addition to her many city championships, she has impacted many young lives through her work. Faye received several nominations highlighting her work ethic and commitment to her students: "Faye goes above and beyond the call of duty to make sure her students have the things they need. She is consistently incredible."

I also want to recognize Up2Us' entire staff of employees and volunteers. They are all to be commended for their work to keep Up2Us the vibrant and strong organization that it remains today; I extend to all of them my best wishes for many more successful years ahead. Indeed they are demonstrating that advancing the lives of our youth is a team sport.

CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my heartfelt congratulations to the Republic of China (Taiwan) on their upcoming centennial anniversary of becoming the first democracy in Asia on October 10, 1911. The annual celebration of this event is known as "Double Ten Day," and celebrates the start of the Wuchang Uprising which established the Republic of China.

Since the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979, Taiwan has been a true friend and long term ally with the United States. Both the U.S. and Taiwan have maintained strong trade ties stemming from our close friendship; I hope these ties continue to advance and expand in the future.

Alaskan and Taiwanese relations are also close as Taiwan is the only country with whom Alaska has a codified relationship agreement. In 2004, leaders from both Alaska and Taiwan established the Taiwan-Alaska Trade and Investment Cooperation Council to further extend collaboration between Alaska and Taiwan. Because of this collaboration, both Alaska and Taiwan have greatly benefitted from the many cultural exchanges, and improved trade and transport relations. In fact, in 2010, Taiwan was Alaska's 16th largest export power and received \$23 million in exports including forest products, energy, and machinery. However, since 2008, Alaska has exported \$143 million to Taiwan making it Alaska's 9th largest trading partner over the last 3 years.

I would like to congratulate Taiwan on its 100th anniversary and thank them for their role as an important strategic ally of the United States.

IN RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S CENTENNIAL NATIONAL DAY

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, on October 10th, the Republic of China will celebrate its Centennial National Day. The United States of America and Taiwan enjoy a close and strong relationship based on shared democratic values and free market economies.

While welcome, the improved relations between the two sides does not eliminate the need for the United States to continue to help Taiwan's defense capabilities under the Taiwan Relations Act. Based on that act, the United States should continue to aid Taiwan in replacing its aging air force. According to the

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